

Stichting Free Forests

Policy Plan 2022-2026

1. Vision, Mission and Activities

Vision

We envision a world with a rebalanced relationship between trees and humans where we cocreate and cooperate together to bring balance and peace on earth. In this vision trees and forests are no longer seen and treated as a commodity, owned by humans. They are experienced and seen as living creatures and sentient beings with a wisdom and intelligence of their own. We acknowledge their free spirit and protect their freedom. We listen to and learn from them and act upon their teachings for the benefit of all life on earth. We thank and honor them for their contribution to the earth's clean air and water system.

When we have free, natural forests, where trees can grow old again, and biodiversity flourishes, all life on earth will benefit, because it is healthy and in balance. The vitality of the forests and aging of the trees is an ultimate indicator for the health of all living beings on this planet. A world with natural, free forests, requires all human beings to act with respect, love and care for the trees around their house, communities and forests. We propose free natural forests to be the guiding point of reference for human society, a common global goal to strive for. Regardless of national borders, language barriers or cultural differences, all of life depends on the health and vitality of our forests and trees.

Mission

We want to raise awareness on what trees and forests truly represent on earth, by shifting the current focus from trees and forests as a commodity to trees and forests as living organisms and sentient beings with their own wisdom and intelligence.

If we can help shifting the current mindset, and trees are experienced and loved in a different way by humans, it will enhance humans taking care of the trees, protect the last forests on earth and help them grow and spread wild and freely, so the trees and forests can take care of all life on earth.

Activities

We raise awareness for our mission in four different ways:

- **Treewalks**

By initiating inspiring Treewalks, especially an annual walk around the UN Climate Conference, to give a voice to the trees who are not invited in the political and public arena and generate public and media attention around these walks in order to protect and support the last natural forests.

- **Treetalks**

By doing research and actively spreading the information about the situation and vitality of the trees and forests on earth.

The information is based on intuitive research, where spirit & science meet. This is done in different forms by publishing books, articles, blogs, live storytelling, film and other ways to spread information on the topic.

- **Free Forests school**

By organizing education activities in forests, especially for the next generation. Our education model is based on the circular model of exploring-experience-expanding-expressing with the trees and forests as the teacher, together with experts on the field. We encourage the interaction with trees and forests in multiple ways, to experience and learn from them. We will organize our own research and education programs and we aim to work together with schools, institutions and universities who can embrace our intuitive approach.

2 Financials

Stichting Free Forests is a non-profit organization. Every year we will set up a financial report, starting with our first extended financial year running from the date of incorporation up to and including December 31, 2023.

Funding

We aim for two flows of funding:

1. Donations by the general public through the donation button on our website or directly on our bank account. To reach the general public, we will actively ask people to become our donor.
2. Donations by other foundations, wealthy individuals/charity, research and education organizations or other forest-related institutes who support our vision.

Fund management

The funding that will flow into Stichting Free Forests will be spend on:

- Salaries
- Organization of events, one of them being the annual Treewalks around the UN Climate Conference
- Publications on trees and forests in different forms (books, film, articles/blog on social media)
- Research & education activities
- Communication materials/campaigns
- Supporting reforestation and rewilding projects
- Overhead

3 Organization

The daily organization of Stichting Free Forests is run by founder Tanja Abbas. She executes the strategy that was developed together with the board.

Members of the board

The board consists of three members. They gather every quarter, live or electronically. Board members do not receive any salary for their work.

The board members are:

Anne Leeflang, President
Delia Spatareanu, Secretary
Jos Korpadi, Treasurer

Contact details

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